

ever, and not a few of them are wearing the universal khaki. But the latest notable conversion is that of a well-known London clergyman and his wife, who were received into the Church together in Wales. The Rev. Bernard Berlyn is an Oxford man, the son of a journalist, and he took Orders in the Church of England in 1909. He was attached to St. Alban's, Fulham, where as senior curate he was very popular in the parish. The church is a very High one, and Mrs. Berlyn shared her husband's religious sentiments. When war broke out Mr. Berlyn was one of the first to volunteer as chaplain to the Forces, and has been for some time in charge of a big camp at Colchester. He had, however, also put himself under instruction during that interval and has now resigned the Church of England chaplaincy. He and his wife met again in Wales and had the happiness of making their profession of faith together and being received into the Church at St. Bride's Abbey, Milford Haven, Bishop Mostyn of Menevia conferring conditional baptism. Mr. and Mrs. Berlyn have made a great sacrifice to follow their consciences, as they are not wealthy people, and the fact of his marriage precludes Mr. Berlyn from studying for the priesthood.

THE IRISH FLAG

The national flags of England, Scotland, and Ireland, quartered, compose the Royal Standard (writes Mr. F. J. Bigger, M.R.I.A., in the *Glasgow Observer*). The arms of England, the three lions, are used a second time to make up the fourth quarter. Wales considers this an injustice, believing, and with much show of right, that the national griffin of Wales should be in the fourth quarter. No one has the privilege of flying the Royal Standard except Royalty, or under Royal conditions. It must not be generally used nor flown as a party or political flag, and there are many who maintain that the same should apply to the Union Jack. Sir Bernard Burke, who is considered a first-rate authority, states that, according to his view, it is even wrong to display the banner of St. George or the Union Jack from a private house. Be that as it may, the Scottish quarter of the Royal Standard, the golden flag with a red lion and a *fleur-de-lis* border, is flown exactly as it appears, without comment, amendment, or alteration, as the Scottish National ensign, no Union Jack ever being added in the corner. The three lions or leopards are constantly seen as the purely English flag, but the Irish flag is continually altered and a Jack added in the corner without precedent, license, or authority, and against heraldic rules and laws.

Anyone applying for information to any of the recognised official heralds will soon be satisfied on this score.

The only point on which there is any question regarding the Irish flag, amongst authorities on the subject, is that of color. Some maintain that the old Irish color was blue, others say green has been so long used, and is so distinctly Irish, that it has now become universally accepted as the national color.

The harp is admitted on all hands as the national symbol, and so it appears always unaccompanied, by any Jack on the Irish quarter of the Royal Standard. The shape of the harp varies. That with the human figure is of more recent origin than the one known as Brian Boru's Harp, which latter is the more correct, and is now the accepted form appearing on the banner above the Royal stall in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, from which all others may, or even should be copied. There is no truth in the statement that Henry VIII., or Cromwell, originated the harp as the arms of Ireland. It was used before the time of either of these potentates. In Belaine's globe, in 1492, the harp is displayed on the flag of Ireland, which disposes of the Henry VIII. fiction, whilst the flying of it by Owen Roe O'Neill, when he landed at Doe Castle, in Donegal, in 1642, equally disposes of the Cromwell romance.

The now accepted flag of Ireland is a golden harp on a green ground, and this was the flag so freely used and distributed by the thousand amongst the school children of Dublin by the express direction of the late Queen Victoria on the occasion of her last visit to Ireland. Any addition to it is quite wrong and absolutely unauthorised.

The old shape of the Irish shield was round, and the flag square, and not oblong. (A very good example of the three separate shields of England, Ireland, and Scotland is shown on the Queen Victoria florin.) The ensign of Ulster is the red right hand (not the left, which is very wrong) on a white ground, and this is also the standard of the O'Neills.

The sunburst is an old Irish symbol, making a most effective flag on a blue ground, and with it those who stand up for blue as the national color might well be satisfied, leaving the green flag and the golden harp in the position it has now so long occupied. It should be regarded by the Irish people of all beliefs, religious and political, as really and truly national in the best sense of that much-abused word, above all social differences, and never used for party purposes.

OBITUARY

MR. W. F. CLINTON, DARFIELD.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

Mr. W. F. Clinton, a resident of Darfield for the past fifty years, died suddenly early on Sunday morning, March 21. Mr. Clinton was born in Victoria, and came to Auckland with his parents when he was two years of age, and later on became a resident of Canterbury. He was the first altar boy to serve in Christchurch. Though not an active participant in public affairs, he gave liberally to every deserving cause. At the time of his death he was a member of the Darfield Domain Board, and a director of the Darfield Saleyards Company. The late Mr. Clinton was a particularly well-known breeder of high-class sheep, and his exhibits won numerous prizes at the Canterbury shows. He was also a noted breeder of heavy Clydesdale horses, his teams being amongst the finest in the province. Dalmauir Prince, an imported horse, won many honors for him. In his younger days he was a keen horseman, and his interest in the turf never waned. A few years ago a horse of his, Lady Clare, won the New Zealand Trotting Cup, the highest honor to be gained in this class of sport. The funeral, which took place on March 23, was very largely attended. The deceased, who leaves a widow and large family, was highly respected and his death is much regretted.—R.I.P.

MRS. MICHAEL MULLIN, TIMARU.

(From a correspondent.)

On Sunday morning, March 21, there passed away one of our most esteemed parishioners in the person of Mrs. Michael Mullin. The deceased lady was 74 years of age, and for over 40 years had taken a keen interest in all matters in connection with the Church, being specially interested of late years in the Altar Society, in which she did good work. She was also most charitable, being ever ready to help those requiring assistance. At Mass on Sunday, the Very Rev. Dean Tubman spoke of the deceased's good work for God and her neighbor, and asked the prayers of the congregation for the repose of her soul. Mrs. Mullin bore all her sufferings most patiently, and passed away perfectly resigned to God's holy will, after receiving the last rites of the Church. Rev. Father Murphy attended the deceased in her last illness, and also officiated at the graveside. The funeral was largely attended by those desirous of showing their respect for the memory of Mrs. Mullin, and their sympathy for her sorrowing husband.—R.I.P.

Dr. J. J. GRESHAM

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